IN THE CLAIMS

In this Response, Claims 1, 4, 7, 45, 48, 49, 54 and 55 have been amended. New Claims 61-72 have been submitted.

1. (currently amended) A stent for delivering a therapeutic substance in a body vessel, comprising a stent body, the stent body carrying:

a first material ~~carried by the stent containing~~including a therapeutic substance; and

a second material configured to convert a first type of energy received by the second material from an energy source positioned external to the body vessel to a second type of energy, wherein the first type of energy is non-cytotoxic electromagnetic waves and the second type of energy promotes release of the therapeutic substance from the first material.

2. (original) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the second material is selected from the group consisting of Au, Au-alloy, Au with a silica core, and ferrimagnetic glass-ceramic.

3. (original) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the second type of energy is thermal energy.

4. (currently amended) The stent of Claim 1, ~~wherein the second material is disposed in microdepots positioned on the surface of the stent~~further comprising depots disposed on a surface of the stent body for carrying the second material.

5. (original) The stent of Claim 1, further comprising a topcoat deposited over at least a portion of the first material.

6. (original) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the second material comprises Au particles having a silica nanoparticle core.

7. (currently amended) The stent of Claim 1, further comprising a third material configured to convert a third type of energy received by the third material from an energy source positioned external to the body vessel to a fourth type of energy, wherein the fourth type of energy promotes release of the therapeutic substance ~~or a second therapeutic substance~~ from the stent body.

8. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 7, wherein the third type of energy is electromagnetic energy, and wherein the electromagnetic energy of the first energy type has a different wavelength than the third energy type.

Claim 9 (canceled).

10. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the second material is capable of converting electromagnetic waves with wavelengths between 800 and 1200 nm into thermal energy.

11. (original) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the first material is a temperature-sensitive hydrogel.

12. (original) The stent of Claim 11, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel is in thermal communication with the second material.

13. (original) The stent of Claim 11, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel is selected from the group consisting of N-isopropylacrylamide, polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers, poly(acrylic acid) grafted pluronic copolymers, chitosan grafted pluronic copolymer, elastin mimetic polypeptides, and combinations and mixtures thereof.

Claims 14-28 (canceled).

29. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 6, wherein the silica nanoparticle core has a diameter from 100 to 250 nm.

30. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 6, wherein the Au particles include an Au shell having a thickness of 1 to 100 nm.

31. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 11, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel has a lower critical solution temperature greater than 37°C.

32. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 11, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel is an anionic hydrogel and the therapeutic substance is a cationic substance.

Claims 33-44 (canceled).

45. (currently amended) A stent for delivering a therapeutic substance in a body vessel, comprising: a radially expandable stent body;

a first material ~~carried by the stent containing~~including a therapeutic substance; and

a second material configured to convert non-cytotoxic electromagnetic waves received by the second material to a ~~second~~first type of energy, wherein the ~~second~~first type of energy promotes the release of the therapeutic substance from the first material.

46. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 45, wherein the second material is capable of converting electromagnetic waves with wavelengths between 800 and 1200 nm into thermal energy.

47. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 45, wherein the second material is selected from the group consisting of Au, Au-alloy, Au with a silica core, and ferrimagnetic glass-ceramic.

48. (currently amended) The stent of Claim 45, wherein the ~~second~~first type of energy is thermal energy.

49. (currently amended) The stent of Claim 45, ~~wherein the second material is disposed in microdepots positioned on the surface of the stent~~further comprising depots disposed on a surface of the stent body for carrying the second material.

50. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 45, further comprising a topcoat deposited over at least a portion of the first material.

51. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 45, wherein the second material comprises Au particles having a silica nanoparticle core.

52. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 51, wherein the silica nanoparticle core has a diameter from 100 to 250 nm.

53. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 51, wherein the Au particles include an Au shell having a thickness of 1 to 100 nm.

54. (currently amended) The stent of Claim 45, further comprising a third material configured to convert a ~~third~~second type of energy received by the third material ~~from an energy source~~ to a ~~fourth~~third type of energy, wherein the ~~fourth~~third type of energy promotes release of the therapeutic substance ~~or a second therapeutic substance~~ from the stent body.

55. (currently amended) The stent of Claim 54, wherein the ~~third~~second type of energy is electromagnetic energy, and wherein the electromagnetic ~~energy of the first energy type has~~waves received by the second material have a different wavelength than the ~~third~~second energy type.

56. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 45, wherein the first material is a temperature-sensitive hydrogel.

57. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 56, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel is in thermal communication with the second material.

58. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 56, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel is selected from the group consisting of N-isopropylacrylamide, polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers, poly(acrylic acid) grafted pluronic copolymers, chitosan grafted pluronic copolymer, elastin mimetic polypeptides, and combinations and mixtures thereof.

59. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 56, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel has a lower critical solution temperature greater than 37°C.

60. (previously presented) The stent of Claim 56, wherein the temperature-sensitive hydrogel is an anionic hydrogel and the therapeutic substance is a cationic substance.

Please insert the following New Claims:

61. (new) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the second material is ferrimagnetic glass-ceramic.

62. (new) The stent of Claim 1, further comprising a second therapeutic substance and a third material configured to convert a third type of energy received by the third material from an energy source positioned external to the body vessel to a fourth type of energy, wherein the fourth type of energy promotes release of the second therapeutic substance from the stent body.

63. (new) The stent of Claim 62, wherein the third type of energy is electromagnetic energy, and wherein the electromagnetic energy of the first energy type has a different wavelength than the third energy type.

64. (new) The stent of Claim 62, wherein the second therapeutic substance is included in the first material or in a fourth material carried by the stent body.

65. (new) The stent of Claim 4, wherein the second material completely fills at least some of the depots.

66. (new) The stent of Claim 5, wherein the topcoat includes a polymer.

67. (new) The stent of Claim 45, wherein the second material is ferrimagnetic glass-ceramic.

68. (new) The stent of Claim 45, further comprising a second therapeutic substance and a third material configured to convert a second type of energy received by the third material to a third type of energy, wherein the third type of energy promotes release of the second therapeutic substance from the stent body.

69. (new) The stent of Claim 68, wherein the second type of energy is electromagnetic energy and wherein the electromagnetic waves received by the second material have a different wavelength than the second type of energy.

70. (new) The stent of Claim 68, wherein the second therapeutic substance is included in the first material or in a fourth material carried by the stent body.

71. (new) The stent of Claim 49, wherein the second material completely fills at least some of the depots.

72. (new) The stent of Claim 50, wherein the topcoat includes a polymer.